

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 to 14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A fuel injection system, comprising:  
a fuel injector having spray-discharge orifice;  
a spark plug having a spark plug insulator, a first electrode, and a second electrode, wherein the spark plug insulator at least partially surrounds the first electrode, and wherein the second electrode is set apart from the first electrode by a spark gap that has a width between approximately 50 to 300 micrometers and is disposed in front of the spray-discharge orifice with a clearance between approximately 3 to 15 millimeters, the first and second electrode having a curved design, so that the second electrode is not disposed diametrically across from the first electrode, but forms an at least partial circle therewith; and  
a shared housing surrounding the fuel injector and the spark plug insulator.

16. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the second electrode is fixed on the shared housing.

17. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first electrode and the second electrode have a substantially rectilinear shape and are positioned substantially diametrically opposite to one another.

18. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first electrode and the second electrode are bent in the form of a graduated circle.

19. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first electrode has a first end, the second electrode has a second end, and the first end and the second end face one another.

20. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 19, wherein the first end and the second end are chamfered.

21. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 19, wherein the first end and the second end are tapered conically.

22. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein:  
the fuel injector has a longitudinal axis inside the shared housing; and  
the first electrode has a first portion and a first bent end, and the second electrode has a second portion and a second bent end, the first portion and the second portion being positioned substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis, and the first bent end and the second bent end forming the spark gap.

23. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 22, wherein the first bent end has a first angle, the second bent end has a second angle, and the first angle and the second angle are substantially right angles.

24. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first electrode has a first arch, the second electrode has a second arch, and the first arch and the second arch form the spark gap.

25. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first electrode has a first upward bend, the second electrode has a second upward bend, and the first upward bend and the second upward bend are substantially parallel to one another.

26. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the first upward bend has a first angle, the second upward bend has a second angle, and the first angle and the second angle are substantially right angles.

27. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, further comprising:  
a plurality of spray-discharge orifices;  
wherein the fuel injector is an inwardly opening fuel injector.

28. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 22, wherein the first portion has a first length, the second portion has a second length, and the first length and the second length are substantially the same length.

29. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the fuel injector has a longitudinal axis, and the spark gap is disposed in an axial extension of the longitudinal axis.

30. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 22, wherein the first portion has a first length, the second portion has a second length, and the first length and the second length are not substantially the same length.

31. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 15, wherein the fuel injector is an outwardly opening fuel injector.

32. (Previously Presented) The fuel injector of Claim 31, wherein a mixture cloud is formed when a mixture is injected through the spray-discharge orifice, and the mixture cloud grazes the spark gap in a tangential manner.